

Greener Hopkinton
March 15, 2012
Minutes
APPROVED

In attendance: Mary Leadbeater, Denis Goddard, Nancy Jackson-Reno, Bethann McCarthy

Nancy showed the group a poster that she made for town meeting, which will sit on a table. We will have sign up sheets for the community garden, the e-newsletter, and for individuals who would like to have weatherization assistance next year.

Rescinding Pay per bag is being debated at Town meeting again this year. Warrant 9 has about 85 signatures. This warrant would rescind PPB.

The NH Local Energy Solutions Annual Conference is being held on Saturday, March 30.

Bethann has signed up and has informed other members of the conference. It's a really good educational and networking opportunity. Cost is \$30 for first town attendee, \$25 thereafter per person.

The Community Garden will get going again in a couple of months. We will help with advertising, etc. We discussed having another planning meeting, as we did last year. Bethann will contact Risa and Amy and see if they want to get together.

Denis G. reported that there are a few small cost energy initiatives being funded through the town budget for next year. We discussed the possibility of having energy efficiency and environmental stewardship (recycling, etc) written in to the Town's policy statement. All thought this would be a great idea. We'll start researching some possible verbiage. Bethann mentioned the Concord Area Local Energy Committee round table, which meets monthly. This might be a good starting point. If other towns have already done this, we can get some examples of how they did it.

We also discussed getting together with Neal Cass and the new Public Works superintendent to prioritize projects, using the reports that were put together under the ETAP and MEAP programs. Denis suggests doing this soon after Town meeting.

Bethann reported that there are still funds in the NEGEF grant money, which may have to go back to NEGEF. We will see if we can use the funds to buy more weatherization items. There is also money in the community garden fund.

The Town does not want to contribute the \$250 +/- necessary to fund our Constant Contact account. We discussed finding alternative ways to fund this. We will look into a fund raiser for next year - perhaps selling bags again (a different design)_ or stainless steel water bottles. Nancy and Bethann will look at what type of options we have for this.

The Town has a new website. Denis said that Greener Hopkinton can probably have its own page, which they could add links to, etc. Denis suggested contacting Robin about this after town meeting.

An issue of the e-newsletter will go out in the next week or so. Mary will get Bethann some information on sale of compost bins to include.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethann McCarthy